

BANKING, FINANCE & ECONOMY Q&A: FEBRUARY 2019

1. **Which small finance bank launched 'Kisan Suvidha loan' for small and marginal farmers, on 30th January 2019?**

Answer – Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Explanation: On 30th January 2019, 'Kisan Suvidha loan' for small and marginal farmers launched by Ujjivan Small Finance Bank. The scheme will attempt to reach the bottom of the pyramid with products and services. Kisan Suvidha loan can be used by farmers for both agriculture and allied activities. The product is specially designed to cater to the needs of customers for various allied and agricultural activities. Ujjivan Small Finance Bank launched the product in Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Karnataka and Odisha with an eye to expand the product offerings. It provides loans to individuals with an amount ranging from Rs. 60000 to Rs. 2 Lakh to fulfill the customized needs of the mass market segment. The loan does not require any collateral. Ujjivan becomes the 1st bank to offer loans for agriculture and allied activities.

2. **Nielsen study states that the Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) industry is likely to grow between ___% and 12% in 2019 which is a little lower than 13.8% in 2018?**

Answer – 11 % Explanation: On 29th January 2019, as per Nielsen study the Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) industry is likely to grow between 11% and 12% in 2019 which is a little lower than 13.8% in 2018. Growth of FMCG industry in the 4th quarter of 2018 was 15.9% and the study account the calendar year while making projections. The growth in current year is primarily on back of conducive macro economic environment, Rural consumption, sustained benefits of GST regime and election impact. Nielsen expects the sustained government focus on rural infrastructure and surging non farm income in rural areas to support rural FMCG consumption story.

3. **ICICI Bank decided to terminate the contract of former Managing Director and CEO ____, on 30th January 2019?**

Answer – Chanda Kochhar Explanation: On 30th January 2019, ICICI Bank decided to terminate the contract of former Managing Director and CEO Chanda Kochhar. A panel lead by B.N Srikrishna found that she violated the bank code of conduct. The board also decide to retrieve bonuses paid to her from April 2009 to March 2018. During the period Kochhar was paid a performance bonus of about Rs.9.8cr. In 2017, CBI regulators preliminary enquiry based on allegations made by whistle blower around Gupta that loans given to the Videocon Group in 2012. Chanda Kochhar assumed charge as MD and CEO of ICICI Bank on May 1, 2009 and resigned on October 2018. Bank appointed Sandeep Bakshi as CEO for after her resignation.

4. **Which company acquired the Noida-based last-minute hotel booking app NightStay, on 31st January 2019?**

Answer – Paytm Explanation: On January 31, 2019, Noida based digital payments company Paytm acquired the Noida-based last-minute hotel booking app, NightStay .And NightStay founder Nasr Khan will lead the hotel-booking services at Paytm. And Paytm planned to invest 70 million for its growth in the travel segment.

5. **Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) under Ministry of Commerce and Industry was renamed as ____, on 30th January 2019?**

Answer – Department of promotion of Industry and Internal Trade Explanation: On 30th January 2019, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) renamed as Department of promotion of Industry and Internal Trade. The newly named department is under Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The department will look into matters related to promotion of internal trade, including retail trade, will are of traders and their employees, facilitating ease of doing business and start-ups. Matters related to internal trade were earlier under the domain of Ministry of consumer affairs and now under the promotion of Industry and Internal Trade. The decision comes amidst a demand by traders body Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) for forming a separate ministry for internal trade. DIPP was responsible for formation and implementation of promotional and developmental measures for growth of the industrial sector keeping in view the national priorities and Socio economic objectives.

6. **Which city will be the world's fastest growing city in the 2019-2035 period, as per the Global economic Research report prepared by Oxford Economics?**

Answer – Surat Explanation: As per a Global economic Research report prepared by Oxford Economics, Surat will be world's fastest growing city in the 2019-2035 period. The report also stated that all top 10 fastest growing cities will be from India.

7. **India's unemployment rate hit a 45 year high of ___% in 2017-18, as per National Sample Survey Office's (NSSO's) periodic labour force survey (PLFS)?**

Answer – 6.1 % Explanation: On 31st January 2019, as per National Sample Survey Office's (NSSO's) periodic labour force survey (PLFS) India's unemployment rate hit a 45 year high of 6.1% in 2017-18. It is the first comprehensive survey on employment conducted by a government agency after demonetization. Unemployment is higher in urban areas which is 7.8% as compared to 5.3% in rural areas of the country. The unemployment rate is at its highest level as in 1972-73. Unemployment rate among youth reached a record high level in 2017-18 as compared to that in the overall population. Youth's moving away from the Agriculture sector as it is becoming less remunerative and moving to urban areas. Rate of jobless rural males rose to 17.4% from 5% and among rural jobless females the rate became 13.6% from 4.8%.

8. **Total Horticulture production is estimated to be ___ Million Tonnes which would be 8% higher than**

last 5 years average, as per the 2017-18 (Final) and 2018-19 (1st Advance estimate) of Area and Production of Horticulture Crops?

Answer – 314.5 Million tonnes Explanation: As per the 2017-18 (Final) and 2018-19 (1st Advance estimate) of Area and Production of Horticulture Crops released by The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, there has been a record production of Horticulture crops in 2017-18 reaching 311.7 Million Tonnes. The Summary of report is given in the table below.

Total Horticulture	2016-2017	2017-2018 (Final)	2018-2019 (1st Advance estimate)
Area (Million Ha)	24.85	25.43	25.87
Production (Million Tonnes)	300.64	311.71	314.67

9. No income tax for earnings up to ____ rupees, as per the Interim Budget for 2019 presented by Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal in Parliament on February 1 2019?

Answer – Rs 5 lakh Explanation: Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal presented an Interim Budget for 2019 in Parliament on February 1 2019. An Interim Budget usually doesn't list out new schemes or doesn't unveil any policy measures. The government will present the vote on account for the next four-to-five months. A full-fledged Budget will be presented after the House reassembles after the general election. As per the budget, No income tax for earnings up to Rs 5 lakh. Individuals with gross income of up to Rs 6.5 lakh need not pay any tax if they make investments in provident funds and prescribed equities.

10. Standard tax deduction for salaried persons raised from Rs 40,000 to Rs ____, as per the Interim Budget for 2019 presented by Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal?

Answer – Rs 50,000 Explanation: Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal presented an Interim Budget for 2019 in Parliament on February 1 2019. Standard tax deduction for salaried persons raised from Rs 40,000 to Rs 50,000. TDS threshold to be raised from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 40,000 on interest earned on bank/post office deposits. I-T processing of returns to be done in 24 hours.

11. Fiscal deficit for 2018/19 is seen at what percent of GDP, as per the Interim Budget for 2019 presented by Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal?

Answer – 3.4 % Explanation: Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal presented an Interim Budget for 2019 in Parliament on February 1 2019. Fiscal deficit for 2018/19 seen at 3.4% of GDP.

12. FY20 total expenditure seen at ____ rupees, as per the Interim Budget for 2019 presented by Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal?

Answer – 27.84 trillion rupees Explanation: Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal presented an Interim Budget for 2019 in Parliament on February 1 2019. FY20 total expenditure seen at 27.84 trillion rupees. FY20 capital expenditure seen at

Rs 3,36,292 crore. Central schemes to get Rs 3,27,679 crore FY20. Recovered Rs 3 lakh crore via bankruptcy code.

13. Current account deficit for 2018/19 is seen at what percent of GDP, as per the Interim Budget for 2019 presented by Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal?

Answer – 2.5 % Explanation: Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal presented an Interim Budget for 2019 in Parliament on February 1 2019. Current account deficit for 2018/19 seen at 2.5% of GDP. Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra and Oriental Bank no more under RBI's prompt corrective action.

14. TDS threshold to be raised from Rs. 10,000 to ____ rupees on interest earned on bank/post office deposits, as per the Interim Budget for 2019 presented by Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal?

Answer – Rs 40,000 Explanation: Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal presented an Interim Budget for 2019 in Parliament on February 1 2019. TDS threshold to be raised from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 40,000 on interest earned on bank/post office deposits. Housing and real estate sector to get boost-

- TDS threshold on rental income increased from ₹1.8 lakh to ₹2.4 lakh.

- Benefit of rollover of capital gains increased from investment in one residential house to two residential houses for capital gains up to Rs. 2 crores.

- Tax benefits for affordable housing extended till 31st March, 2020 under Section 80-IBA of Income Tax Act

- Tax exemption period on notional rent, on unsold inventories, extended from one year to two years

15. New Pension Scheme (NPS) has been increased from 10% to what percent with effect from April 1, 2019, as per the Interim Budget for 2019 presented by Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal?

Answer – 14 % Explanation: Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal presented an Interim Budget for 2019 in Parliament on February 1 2019. New Pension Scheme (NPS) had been increased 10% to 14% with effect from April 1, 2019.

16. Gratuity limit payment increased from Rs. 10 lakhs to ____, as per the Interim Budget for 2019 presented by Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal?

Answer – Rs 20 lakhs Explanation: Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal presented an Interim Budget for 2019 in Parliament on February 1 2019. Gratuity limit payment increased from Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs.

17. Defence budget has been hiked to over ____ rupees for first time ever, as per the Interim Budget for 2019 presented by Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal?

Answer – Rs 3 lakh crore Explanation: Defence budget hiked to over Rs 3 lakh crore for first time ever, in the Interim Budget for 2019 presented by Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal in Parliament.

18. Reserve Bank of India eased out the operational curbs on Bank of India (BoI), Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) and which other bank and also allowed them to exit from Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework fully, on 1st February 2019?

Answer – Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) Explanation: On February 1, 2019, The Reserve Bank of India eased out the

operational curbs on three banks, Bank of India (BoI), Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) and Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) and also allowed them to have a exit from the Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework fully. These three banks were part of 11 government-owned banks that were put under the Prompt Corrective Action framework in 2017 and 2018. And the government gave a capital infusion of Rs 10,000 crore for Bank of India, Rs 5,500 crore for Oriental Bank of Commerce and Rs 4,500 crore for Bank of Maharashtra, which helped the banks to come out of the framework.

19. Which state government issued an order to ban the import of pigs and piglets on 1st February 2019, because of the possibility of outbreak of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS)?

Answer – Mizoram Explanation: On February 1, 2019, The Mizoram Government issued an order to ban the import of pigs and piglets, because there is a possibility of outbreak of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS). PRRS disease is also called as Swine Flu, the virus of this disease generally transmitted from pigs and affects both pigs and humankind. Basically the pigs imported from Myanmar are in suspect point, pigs imported from other countries too have been banned as a move to prevent the outbreak of the PRRS in the state.

20. Central Statistical Office (CSO) revised the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) Growth forecast to what percent from earlier estimate of 6.7%, on 31st January 2019?

Answer – 7.2 % Explanation: On 31st January 2019, the Central Statistical Office (CSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme implementation has revised the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) Growth forecast to 7.2% from earlier estimate of 6.7%. The revised GDP growth rate shows that the effect of demonetization was not as severe as predicted earlier. Hence various economists have criticized the revision of growth rates. The GDP growth rate at current prices also called Nominal GDP growth rate has been revised to 11.3% to 10% for 2017-18. The actual growth rate for 2016-17 has also been revised to 8.2% from the earlier estimate of 7.1% by the CSO.

21. Government has reduced the import duty on parts and components of electric vehicles to 10-___ % in order to promote domestic assembling of electric vehicles with effect from 30th January 2019?

Answer – 15 % Explanation: On 29th January 2019, The Government reduced the import duty on parts and components of electric vehicles to 10-15 per cent from 15-30 per cent in order to promote domestic assembling of electric vehicles. The new rates will come into effect from 30th January 2019. A separate category for parts and components of electric vehicle has been carved out by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) which attracts import duty of 10-15%.

22. Yes Bank Senior group President and head of retail and business banking ___ resigned from his post, on 31st January 2019?

Answer – Pralay Mondal Explanation: On 31st January 2019, Yes Bank Senior group President and head of retail and business banking, Pralay Mondal resigned from his post. He will serve his notice till 31st March 2019. Pralay Mondal joined Yes Bank in 2012 and he was elevated along with Rajat Monga who handled financial management as Executive Directors of the Yes Bank in September 2018. On 31st January 2019, Yes Bank appointed Ajai Kumar who had led Syndicate Bank in

past as non-executive Director till Ravneet Singh Gill from Deutsche Bank takes over from 1st March 2019.

23. ___ was appointed as the interim CEO of YES Bank, on 31st January 2019?

Answer – Ajai Kumar Explanation: On January 31, 2019, RBI has approved the appointment of Ajai Kumar as the interim CEO of YES Bank, which have undergone several resignations and appointments in top leadership level. RBI approved Ajai Kumar as Interim MD and CEO of the bank from February 1, 2019, for one month or till Ravneet Gill assumes office as MD and CEO. Ravneet Gill is at present the head of the German based Deutsche Bank in India. According to the report, he will take charge on or before March 1, 2019. Former MD and CEO Rana Kapoor demitted the office, leaving Yes Bank, as the fifth largest bank.

24. Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman approved the procurement of around 73000 Sig Sauer rifles from which country under fast track procurement mode, on 2nd February 2019?

Answer – United States of America Explanation: On 2nd February 2019, Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman approved the procurement of around 73000 Sig Sauer rifles from United States of America under fast track procurement mode in a major move towards infantry modernization. USA will have to deliver the Sig Sauer rifles which is used by US forces as well as several other European forces within one year of finalization of the deal. The Procured rifles will replace INSAS rifles and the new rifles will be used by the troops deployed along the 3600 km border with China.

25. In order to save Iran from the US (United States) sanctions, Project INSTEX (Instrument in Support of Trade Exercises) has been launched by the governments of United Kingdom, France and which other country?

Answer – Germany Explanation: In order to save Iran from the US (United States) sanctions, Project INSTEX (Instrument in Support of Trade Exercises) was launched by the governments of United Kingdom, France and Germany. The Special payment system, INSTEX will save Iran nuclear Deal by allowing Iran to keep trading with countries of European Union despite of sanctions re-imposed by USA. INSTEX has supervisory board chaired by UK with members from France and Germany and it is registered with Paris with an initial 3000 Euros.

26. If an E-commerce company controls ___ % of a Vendor's inventory or has some equity stake in the Vendor's Company, then the Inventory of that Vendor will be deemed to be controlled by the E-commerce company, as per the new E-commerce Policy that came into effect on 1st February 2019?

Answer – 25 % Explanation: On 1st February 2019, the new E-commerce Policy comes into effect which was notified in December 2018 by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) headed by the ministry of Commerce and Industry. As per the new Policy, 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is possible for marketplace model only. If an E-commerce company controls 25 per cent of a Vendor's inventory or have some equity stake in the Vendor's Company then the Inventory of that Vendor will be deemed to be controlled by the E-commerce company.

27. Which state became the first to set up price monitoring and research unit (PMRU) to track

violation of prices of essential drugs and medical devices, on 3rd February 2019?

Answer – Kerala Explanation: On February 3,2019, Kerala became the first state to set up price monitoring and research unit (PMRU) to track violation of prices of essential drugs and medical devices. The new watchdog will offer technical help to the State Drug Controllers to monitor notified prices of medicines, detect violation of the provisions of the Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO). This move is taken by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA).

28. Pallavan Grama Bank and which other RRB in Tamil Nadu will be amalgamated to form a single RRB named Tamil Nadu Grama Bank under the sponsorship of Indian Bank, with effect from April 1, 2019?

Answer – Pandyan Grama Bank Explanation: Under the sponsorship of Indian Bank, two regional rural bank – Pallavan Grama Bank and Pandyan Grama Bank will be amalgamated to form a single RRB i.e. Tamil Nadu Grama Bank in Tamil Nadu. The consolidation will be effective from April 1, 2019. This amalgamation has been conferred by Ministry of Finance under Regional Rural Banks Act 1976.

29. Foreign direct investment (FDI) into India has declined ___% to \$22.66 billion during April-September 2018-19, as per commerce and industry ministry data?

Answer – 11 % Explanation: On 4th February 2019, according to commerce and industry ministry data Foreign direct investment (FDI) into India has declined 11% to \$22.66 billion during April-September period of the current fiscal. Sectors that received maximum foreign investment are services (\$4.91 billion), computer software and hardware (\$2.54 billion), telecommunications (\$2.17 billion), trading (\$2.14 billion), chemicals (\$1.6 billion) and automobile industry (\$ 1.59 billion).

30. National Bulk Handling Corporation (NBHC) released Kharif Crop estimation for 2018-2019, as per this, basmati rice production is expected to decline by what percent to 5.18 million metric tonne?

Answer – 9.24 % Explanation: On February 4,2019,National Bulk Handling Corporation (NBHC) released Kharif Crop estimation for the year 2018-2019. According to the report, the basmati rice production is expected to decline by 9.24% to 5.18 million metric tonne. The total oilseeds production was estimated to be 19.87 million metric tonne which is 5.36 % lower to in the year 2018. The pulses production was projected to be dropped to 9.10 million tonnes.

31. Fitch Solutions has projected fiscal deficit to increase the budgeted target by 0.2 per cent to ___ % of GDP in 2019-20 fiscal?

Answer – 3.6 % Explanation: On 4th February 2019, Fitch Solutions the research arm of Fitch Group projected fiscal deficit to increase the budgeted target by 0.2 per cent to 3.6% of GDP in 2019-20 fiscal. Government has reported fiscal deficit 3.4% of GDP in the interim budget on 1st February 2019. Fitch released a note titled “India’s Populist FY2019-20 Budget To Delay Fiscal Consolidation”. The interim Budget for 2019-20 was published by finance minister Shri Piyush Goyal on 1st February 2019. According to revised budget estimates the central government plans to spend a total of Rs 27.8 lakh crore in fiscal 2019-20, a 13.3 per cent increase over the 2018-19.

32. Who assumed charge as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Corporation Bank, on 3rd February 2019?

Answer – P V Bharathi Explanation: On February 3,2019,Former executive director of Canara Bank ,P V Bharathi assumed charge as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the city-based Corporation Bank. P V Bharati surpassed Jai Kumar Garg, and became the first woman CEO of the bank. Despite the post of executive director of Canara Bank ,she also held the post of non-executive director of Can Fin Homes Limited and also director board member of Canbank Venture Capital Limited.

33. Which bank bought 14% stake in micro-financier Annapurna Finance, on 3rd February 2019?

Answer – Asian Development Bank (ADB) Explanation: On February 3,2019, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) bought 14% stake in micro-financier Annapurna Finance. ADB Bank bought this stake with a motive of attracting long -term funds from global lenders and investors. ADB’s investment increased Annapurna Finance’s net worth by 580 crores. ADB’s investment is considered to be the second equity investment following Oman India Joint Investment Fund (OIJIF) Rs 155-crore investment.

34. Name the non-banking finance company that acquired CV finance business, a subsidiary of IIFL Holdings, at a cost of Rs 3949 crores, on 4th February 2019?

Answer – IndoStar Capital Finance Ltd Explanation: On February 4,2019, IndoStar Capital Finance Ltd (IndoStar) , a non-banking finance company, to acquired CV finance business , a subsidiary of IIFL Holdings. The IndoStar acquired CV Finance at a cost of 3949 crores.

35. Syndicate Bank was imposed with a Penalty of ___ rupees by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for contradicting the norms in Checking norms and Risk Management, on 5th February 2019?

Answer – Rs 1 Crore Explanation: On 5th February 2019,Axis Bank, UCO Bank and Syndicate Bank are Penalised with a total of Rs.5.2 Crore by RBI Bank for violating the guidelines in regulatory compliance.The Segregation of the Penalised amount are as follows. Axis Bank and UCO Bank has been imposed with a Penalty of Rs.2 Crore each for their not committing with the norms related to payment through cheques. Further Axis Bank has also imposed a Penalty of 20 Lakhs for the detection and impounding of counterfeit notes. Syndicate Bank is imposed with a Penalty of Rs.1 Crore for contradicting the norms in Checking norms and Risk Management.

36. Economic Affairs Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg said that the finance ministry is expecting the GDP growth to reach what percent in 2019-20 from 7.2 % projected for the current fiscal?

Answer – 7.5 % Explanation: On 5th February 2019, the Economic Affairs Secretary, Subhash Chandra Garg said that the finance ministry is expecting the GDP growth to reach 7.5 per cent in 2019-20 from 7.2 per cent projected for the current fiscal. The Government is expecting a nominal growth of 11.5 per cent (for 2019-20) and inflation to remain at 4 per cent. The Economic Affairs Secretary stated that India remains the fastest growing major economy in the world.

37. Industry and Internal trade secretary ___ notified that government will form a small working group to

have a watch over the matter of angel tax profiled by startups?

Answer – Ramesh Abhishek Explanation: Industry and Internal trade secretary Ramesh Abhishek notified that government will form a small working group to have a watch over the matter of angel tax profiled by startups. This was concluded against the surrounding of various startups raising issues on notices under Section 56(2) of the Income Tax Act to pay taxes on angel funds. Government may further exempt start-ups and investors from paying angel tax.

38. Indian Banking Association (IBA) has marked the advisory recommendations from banks to exempt farmers from processing, documentation, inspection, ledger folio charge and various service charges for Kisan Credit Card loans upto ____?

Answer – Rs 3 Lakh Explanation: Indian Banking Association (IBA) has marked the advisory recommendations from banks to exempt farmers from processing, documentation, inspection, ledger folio charge and various service charges for Kisan Credit Card loans upto Rs. 3 Lakhs. These guidelines came to highlight as nominal amount of charges were collected by some schedule commercial banks for agriculture loans.

39. India's fiscal deficit has touched what percent of the FY19 Budget target of Rs. 6.24 lakh crore during the period of 9 months from April to December 2018?

Answer – 112 % Explanation: India's fiscal deficit has touched 112% of the FY19 Budget target of Rs. 6.24 lakh crore during the period of 9 months from April to December 2018. The data was presented by the Controller General of Accountant (CGA) which manifested that fiscal deficit of previous fiscal was 13.6%. Fiscal deficit was at 7 lakh crores during this financial year. This is 112.4% of the Budget estimates for FY19, while for exact figures, it was 113.6% for 2017-2018. Fiscal Deficit is the gap between income and expenditure of the government.

40. Government has stated that India's export may slow down to ____ % in 2018-19 from earlier growth rate of 9.8% of 2017-18 due to poor growth of traditional exports like gems and jewelry, marine, farm and engineering?

Answer – 7.3 % Explanation: As per a statement released by Government, India's export may slow down to 7.3% in 2018-19 from earlier growth rate of 9.8% of 2017-18 due to poor growth of traditional exports like gems and jewelry, marine, farm and engineering. On 5th February 2019, a meeting was held to discuss the problems being faces exporters and to examine the ways by which India's growth rate may reach up to \$ 325 billion by March 2019. The Liquidity Crunch and Global factors are also responsible for the slow export growth.

41. Name State Bank of India's UK chief who was honoured with the 'Freedom of the City Of London' by city of London Corporation, on 6th February 2019?

Answer – Sanjiv Chadha Explanation: On 6th February 2019, the State Bank of India's Uk chief Shri Sanjiv Chadha has been honoured with the 'Freedom of the City Of London' by city of London Corporation. Sanjiv Chadha was nominated for the honour by Lord Mayor of London Peter Estlin and Sheriff Vincent Keaveny. Sanjiv Chadha took up the position in 2014 and he will be succeeded by Sharad Chandak.

42. Name the bill approved by Union Minister to set up a consolidated authority to control and regulate financial services in International Financial Services Centres?

Answer – International Financial Services Centres Authority Bill, 2019 Explanation: The Union Cabinet has approved an International Financial Services Centres Authority Bill, 2019 to set up a consolidated authority to control and regulate financial services in International Financial Services Centres in India. The unified authority will have all the powers which were exercise by the respective financial authorities like RBI, SEBI, IRDAI under respective acts.

43. What is the rank of India, according to the International IP Index of top 50 economies in the world which is released by US Chambers of Commerce?

Answer – 36 Explanation: On February 7, 2019, US Chambers of Commerce released the annual International IP Index of top 50 economies in the world, in the index, India climbed 8 position up to the 36th rank and USA, as the lead. In the index, Pakistan is at 47th spot and Venezuela is at the last place. In 2018, India's rank was 44th of 50 countries, the increase in the rank is dedicated to the various reforms made to the better alignment of India's IP environment, and one of the reforms, was the agreement with Japan to initiate a Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH).

44. As per RBI's 6th Bi-Monthly Policy Statement, the Policy Rates are reduced to how much basis points?

Answer – 0.25 basis points Explanation: On 7th February 2019, Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s six-member monetary policy committee chaired by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das released its 6th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy. RBI had reduced 0.25 basis points in the Policy Rates with immediate effect.

45. What is the repo rate in India, which is recently revised by RBI in 6th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy?

Answer – 6.25% Explanation: RBI had reduced 0.25 basis points in the Policy Rates with immediate effect. The Change in Policy rates are as follows:

Policy Rates	6th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy (Feb 2019)	5th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy (Dec 2018)
Repo Rate	6.25%	6.50%
Reverse Repo Rate	6.00%	6.25%
Marginal Standing Facility Rate	6.50%	6.75%
Bank Rate	6.50%	6.75%
Reserve Ratios	6th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy (Feb 2019)	5th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy (Dec 2018)
Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)	4%	4%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	19.25%	19.5%

46. RBI has Projected the GDP growth of India at _____ per cent for the financial year 2019-20?

Answer – 7.4% Explanation: RBI had Projected the Gross Domestic Product(GDP) growth for the year 2019-20 at 7.4%, While the GDP growth is at 7.2-7.4 per cent in H1, and 7.5 per cent in Q3. Inflation was fallen 18 months low in December at 2.2% and it is expected to remain at 3.2-3.4% in H1-2019-20 and 3.9% in Q3-2019-20.

47. According to the Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Which Country became the Second largest importer of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)?

Answer – India Explanation: As per Oil Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan, India has become the second largest importer of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) after China due to rising demands of cleaner alternatives to the traditional cooking fuels like firewood and cow dung. India surpassed Japan as the imports of LPG grew 12.5% over the last 5 years to 12 million metric tons.

48. According to the Agriculture Census 2015-16 released by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Farmers are Categorized as _____ if which he holds below 1 hectare of land?

Answer – Marginal Explanation: On 6th February 2019, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Issued Categorization of farmers in agriculture census. Agriculture census was held at 2015-16 which is conducted in every five years. Categorisation of operational holdings as per Agriculture Census.

Sl.No.	Category	Size-Class
1	Marginal	Below 1.00 hectare
2	Small	1.00-2.00 hectare
3	Semi-medium	2.00-4.00 hectare
4	Medium	4.00-10.00 hectare
5	Large	10.00 hectare and above

49. Which Country approved to sell two of its advanced missile to India for an estimated cost of \$190 million?

Answer – U.S Explanation: US agreed to sell two of its advanced missile to India for Air India one. US approved the purchase of the two systems known as Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCAM) and Self-Protection Suites (SPS) at cost of USD 190 million, to enhance the security of planes flying the Prime Minister and the President. To purchase these two missile, in the interim budget Rs.1084 crores have allotted and these missiles are to be in India in the year end.

50. What is the new limit on collateral-free agriculture loans from Rs.1 lakh?

Answer – Rs.1.6 lakh Explanation: RBI announced increasing the limit on collateral-free agriculture loans to Rs.1.6 lakh from Rs.1 lakh. It will help to boost liquidity particularly among small and marginal farmers in the farming sectors. Government has already distributed Rs.11 trillion in Agriculture loans. Tamil Nadu has disbursed Rs.1.58 trillion followed by Andhra Pradesh with Rs.1.12 trillion.

51. RBI fined Rs.1 Crore to which bank under Section 47 A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949?

Answer – State Bank of India(SBI) Explanation: Reserve Bank of India has slapped Rs 1 crore penalty on the country's largest lender, State Bank of India for violation of norms. RBI

levied fine on State Bank of India, by exercising its powers under Section 47 A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

52. Invest India and which Organisation signed MoU to promote foreign investments?

Answer – Institute of Chartered Accountant of India (ICAI) Explanation: On 6th February 2019, Invest India and the Institute of Chartered Accountant of India (ICAI) signed a MoU to promote foreign investments in India and Indian investments abroad. It was signed by ICAI President Naveen N D Gupta and Invest India MD and CEO Deepak Bagla. Its Objective is to promote India as an Investment friendly destination and provide necessary guidance and advice to the potential investors within and outside India.

53. What is the name of the digital skilling program launched by Facebook to empower women?

Answer – GOAL (Going Online As Leaders) Explanation: Focussing on its mission to empower women, social networking giant Facebook on launched a digital skilling and mentorship initiative named GOAL (Going Online As Leaders) across five states in India that would encourage tribal girls to become village-level digital young leaders for their communities.

54. Who was appointed as CEO of Cognizant?

Answer – Brian Humphries Explanation: Cognizant for the first time has picked an outsider, Brian Humphries, as its new CEO. Humphries will replace Francisco D'Souza, who has been with the firm since 2007.

55. Where was the fifth edition of two-day Bengal Global Summit held?

Answer – Rajarhat, Kolkata Explanation: On February 7, 2019, The fifth edition of West Bengal Global Business Summit was inaugurated by state Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. It is a two day summit held in Rajarhat, Kolkata. West Bengal bagged over Rs. 40,000 crore worth of investment proposals from Reliance, Group, ITC and others multinational companies on the first day of the business summit. The summit came to an end with West Bengal government signing 86 agreements entailing business proposals worth 2.84 lakh crore. The U.K. India Business Council (UKIBC) signed an MoU to work on promoting trade and investment. West Bengal with a Gross State Domestic Product of USD 155.32 billion is the 4th largest contributor to India's GDP and 6th contributor to India's manufacturing GDP.

56. First time in History, Asian Development Bank (ADB) had raised \$100 million in international market by using which bonds?

Answer – Peso-linked bonds Explanation: On 8th February 2019, The Asian Development Bank raised \$100 million from peso-linked bonds in the international market. It was their maiden issue of Philippine peso. Earlier in 2005 and 2007 ADB issued bond in the Philippine domestic capital market but it was the first time to mobilize Philippine peso funding from international investors through a currency linked structure. The move will help to reduce foreign exchange risk for ADB's borrowers and support its growing local currency lending operations in Philippines.

53. How much is the new limit decided by RBI for Bulk Deposits in order to enhance operational freedom of Banks?

Answer – 2 Crore Explanation: On 7th February 2019, Reserve Bank of India decided to treat deposits to over Rs.2 crore as 'bulk' as they doubled the limit for the same from the

earlier Rs.1crore. This move will enhance operational freedom of Banks. RBI also proposed banks would maintain their bulk deposits interest rate cards in the core banking system for supervisory review. National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies Limited (NAFCUB) has suggested this proposal. The decision in proposal for setting up an Umbrella Organization (UO) for urban cooperative banks in pending with RBI.

58. Which bank has been penalized with Rs 1.5 crore for not monitoring fund use and fraud reporting delay?

Answer – Allahabad Bank Explanation: On Feb. 8 2019, Allahabad Bank said the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 1.5 crore on them for not monitoring end use of funds, delay in classification and reporting of fraud and non-adherence with RBI guidelines during restructuring of accounts in respect of one of its borrowers.

59. Which Organisation penalized the United India Insurance for violation of regulations,circular and guidelines on rates and discounts?

Answer – Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India Explanation: Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India,has imposed a fine of Rs nine lakh on state-owned United India Insurance.Insurance regulator IRDAI,imposed a sum of 5 lakh imposed for violation of regulations such as assigning of surveyors and submitting reports,insurer offering a settlement to the insured as well as paying the claim to the insured.The balance 4 lakh – 1 lakh each was for violations of circular and guidelines on rates and discounts an insurer can offer.

60. At what Percent the growth rate of Himachal Pradesh is projected by Economic Survey Report for 2018-19?

Answer – 7.3%

Explanation: Economic Survey Report for 2018-19 has projected the growth rate in Himachal Pradesh to be around 7.3% for the current financial year, 2018-19, while the per capita income is estimated at Rs 1,76,968. Economic growth was 6.5% in the last fiscal, highest in last 3 years.Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) in current fiscal has increased to Rs 1,36,542 crore and estimated to be about Rs 1,51,835 crore in 2018-19.

61. Centre has increased over 26-year-old monetary limit on disclosure of investment in shares and mutual funds by employees to _____ months of their basic pay?

Answer –6 months Explanation: The government has revised 26-year-old monetary limit on investment in the stock markets and mutual funds by Government Officials to 6 months of their basic pay.Earlier,Under the 1992 rule,officials of Group A and B had to intimate the government if the total transaction exceeded Rs. 50,000. For Group C & D, the earlier upper limit was 25000. Now the limit has raised 5-6 times of the previous one.

62. As per RBI, country's foreign exchange reserves are increased by how many billions?

Answer – USD 2.063 billion Explanation: According to RBI's report,country's foreign exchange reserves increased by USD 2.063 billion to USD 400.24 billion.The data reveals that country's reserve position with the IMF also increased by USD 11.2 million to USD 2.654 billion.Foreign currency assets mounted by USD 1.280 billion to USD 373.430 billion.Gold

reserves increased by USD 764.9 million to USD 22.686 billion.Special drawing rights with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) increased by USD 6.2 million to USD 1.470 billion.

63. Name the US-based virtual search start-up acquired by Facebook to boost AI capabilities?

Answer – GrokStyle Explanation: In an attempt to enable users shop better using Artificial Intelligence (AI) capabilities, Facebook has acquired US-based virtual search start-up, GrokStyle, at an undisclosed amount. GrokStyle was founded in 2015 and is based in San Francisco, USA.

64. RBI restructuring package for small businesses will help recast Rs 1 lakh crore of loans to 7 lakh MSME's account holders,What is the time limit given to bank to implement this scheme?

Answer – March 2020 Explanation: On February 11,2019,RBI restructuring package for small businesses will help recast Rs 1 lakh crore of loans to 7 lakh MSME s account holders.This scheme must be implemented by every bank before March 2020. This MSME package would enhance job opportunities in the industry.This scheme announced by RBI is a one-time scheme wherein a loan tenor and interest rate can be revised without classifying the asset as an NPA.The facility is available for standard advances of up to Rs 25 crore .

65. RBI penalized which bank with Rs.2 Crore for Flouting Norms?

Answer – Corporation Bank Explanation: Reserve Bank of India,has imposed an aggregate penalty of Rs 20 million on our bank due to some lapses in monitoring of end use of funds and exchange of information with other banks in respect of one borrower along with some other banks.

66. What is the new GST Recommended by Government Panel for under-construction residential properties?

Answer – 5% Explanation: On 9th February 2019, Government panel recommended lowering GST on under-construction residential properties to 5%. The GST rate for under-construction flats earlier was 12%.The Group of Ministers headed by Nithin Patel was formed to analyse tax rates and issues or challenges being faced by the real estate sector under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime.The seven member ministerial panel also favoured lowering GST on affordable housing from 8% earlier to 3%.The move will give relief to homebuyers as the tax rate had lowered sharply with no input tax credit. Any cut in GST should reduce the adverse impact on the land abatement rate also.

67. With Which bank, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) signed a loan agreement of Rs 5,000 crore?

Answer – State Bank of India(SBI) Explanation: State owned National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) signed a term loan agreement for Rs 5,000 crore with the State Bank of India (SBI).The agreement was signed by NTPC's General Manager (Finance), Masood A. Ansari, and Deputy General Manager of SBI, Neelabh Sinha.The loan facility is extended at an interest rate linked to 3-month MCLR of the bank and has a door to door tenure on 15 years, which will be utilised to part finance the capital expenditure of NTPC.

68. Name the Think tank/Ministry which had Signed the Statement of Intent (SoI) with MSDF to improve learning outcomes in public school education?

Answer – NITI Aayog Explanation: A Statement of Intent (SoI) was signed between the NITI Aayog and the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation (MSDF) to codify, document and share best practices to improve learning outcomes in public school education through systematic reforms, based on their collective experiences of working with various State Governments. The SoI was signed by Alok Kumar, Adviser (HRD) of NITI Aayog and Barun Mohanty, MD (International) of MSDF.

69. Who was conferred with the EY Entrepreneur of the year 2018 award?

Answer – Siddhartha Lal Explanation: Siddhartha Lal, MD & CEO of Eicher Motors has won the EY Entrepreneur of the year 2018 after transforming Eicher Motors and helping the company resurrect the Royal Enfield motorcycle brand in India and making it a global brand icon. Azim Premji, chairman of Wipro won the Lifetime Achievement Award for putting the Indian Information Technology industry in the global market and his notable contribution to society as a philanthropist.

70. Which organization was conferred an award under Miniratna Category by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)?

Answer – National Film Development Corporation of India (NFDC) Explanation: National Film Development Corporation of India (NFDC) was announced as the winner under the Miniratna Category by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) in its campaign to felicitate CPSEs in recognition for their work in promoting SC/ST entrepreneurs. NFDC has funded over 300 films in various Indian languages which have been widely acclaimed and have won many national and international awards.

71. What is the new increased value of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for raw jute for the financial year 2019-20 approved by Union Cabinet?

Answer –Rs.3950 per quintal Explanation: Cabinet committee chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given approval to increase the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for raw jute for 2019-20 season. For Fair Average Quality (FAQ) raw jute the MSP has been increased to Rs.3950 per quintal for 2019-20 season from Rs.3700 per quintal in 2018-19 season. The jute cooperation of India will continue to act as Central Nodal Agency. It will undertake price support operations at the MSP in jute growing states.

72. Which Organization/Ministry organized the Real Estate Conference CREDAI YouthCon 2019 in NewDelhi?

Answer – Confederation of Real Estate Developers Associations of India Explanation: Annual Youth Conclave of Confederation of Real Estate Developers Associations of India (CREDAI), CREDAI YouthCon 2019 was held at the Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi. It was the 3rd edition of the YouthCon. Gautam Chatterjee, Maharashtra RERA Chief, said that the main objective of RERA (Real Estate Regulatory Authority) is transparency with other objectives being projects to help builders overcome difficulties and improve trust between builders and buyers. Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the CREDAI-YouthCon 2019. He announced that about 1.5 crore houses have been built under PM Awas Yojna out of which 15 lakhs are built for poor people in urban areas.

73. What is the theme of the 3rd edition CREDAI YouthCon 2019, that held in NewDelhi?

Answer – Theme:NexGEN – Next Generation Explanation: Annual Youth Conclave of Confederation of Real Estate Developers Associations of India (CREDAI), CREDAI YouthCon 2019 was held at the Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi. It was the 3rd edition of the YouthCon. Theme:NexGEN – Next Generation Gautam Chatterjee, Maharashtra RERA Chief, said that the main objective of RERA (Real Estate Regulatory Authority) is transparency with other objectives being projects to help builders overcome difficulties and improve trust between builders and buyers.

74. Which of the following Bank's divergence charges had been cleared by Reserve Bank of India recently?

Answer – Yes Bank Explanation: On 13th February 2019, The Reserve Bank of India cleared Yes Bank of Divergence charges i.e. disparity in reporting bad loans and provisioning numbers for the year ended March 2018. The final report has observed nil divergence in the bank's asset classification and provisioning from the norms of the RBI. In FY16, after its first assessment, Yes Bank was found divergence of Bad loans by RBI at Rs. 4,176 crore higher than the reported gross NPA of Rs. 748.9 crore. Further, in FY17, Yes Bank was found to be divergence again at Rs. 6,355 crore and reported gross NPA of Rs. 2,018 crore lower than RBI's estimation of Rs. 8,373 crore.

75. Read the following statements and choose which one is true?

- HDFC Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank and IDBI Bank were fined Rs 2 million each for non-compliance with respect to Know Your Customer (KYC) norms and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) standards.
- Allahabad Bank, Andhra Bank, Indian Overseas bank and Bank of Maharashtra were penalised for not following directions set by RBI on monitoring end use of funds.
- ICICI Bank has penalised with Rs.2 Crore for violating RBI norms.

Answer – Option i and ii is correct Explanation: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has penalised various banks for not complying with various norms of RBI. HDFC Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank and IDBI Bank were fined Rs 2 million each for non-compliance with respect to Know Your Customer (KYC) norms and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) standards. Allahabad Bank, Andhra Bank, Indian Overseas bank and Bank of Maharashtra were penalised for not following directions set by RBI on monitoring end use of funds, exchange of information with other banks, classification and reporting of frauds and restructuring of accounts. The penalty was Rs 10 million for Andhra Bank and Rs 15 million each for others. Bank of Baroda and Union Bank of India has imposed a penalty of Rs 1 crore each for violating various banking norms.

76. India signed a deal with which Country to procure 72,400 Sig Sauer Assault Rifles worth around Rs.700 Crore?

Answer – US Explanation: The Indian Government has signed a deal with the US under Fast Track Procurement (FTP) to avail the Indian Army with 72,400 new 'Sig Sauer Assault Rifles' which will overhaul the army's inventory of frontline rifles. These Sig Sauer Assault rifles are 7.62*51 mm which are compact, robust, advance in technology and easy to maintain in field conditions. These new rifles will come at a cost of around Rs. 700 Crore and will be used by the army troops deployed along the 3,600 km China's border. As the contract is made

under Fast-Track Procurement (FTP), the assault rifles will be made and supplied within a year. Out of 72,400 rifles, around 66,000 are for the Indian Army and rest 2000 for Indian Navy and 4000 for the Indian Air Force.

77. Ashwani Lohani was appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of which organization?

Answer – Air India Explanation: Ashwani Lohani, former chairman of Railway Board, has been reappointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Air India for the second time after his previous tenure from August 2015 to August 2017. He will assume office from 14th February 2019, replacing Pradeep Singh Kharola, who is appointed as the new Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation.

78. Which State/UT hosted the 13th edition of PETROTECH-2019 recently?

Answer – Greater Noida, New Delhi Explanation: The 13th edition of PETROTECH-2019 was held at India Expo Mart in Greater Noida, New Delhi from 10th to 12th February 2019. The event was attended by energy Ministers from 18 countries, top industry executives, and over 7000 delegates from 70 countries to discuss the way forward for the energy sector.

79. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) along with which of the following ministry organised the 13th edition of PETROTECH-2019, in New Delhi?

Answer – Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Explanation: 13th edition of PETROTECH-2019 was organised by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) in association with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

80. What is the theme of the 13th edition of PETROTECH-2019, organized by ONGC and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas?

Answer – Theme-Shaping the New Energy World through Innovation & Collaboration Explanation: The theme of PETROTECH-2019 was “Shaping the New Energy World through Innovation & Collaboration”. PETROTECH is a biennial conference and exhibition for national and international experts in the oil & gas industry to meet and exchange views and share knowledge, expertise, and experiences.

81. What is the new National Minimum Wage (NMW) per month for a worker, recently revised by an expert committee appointed by Government of India?

Answer – Rs.9750 per month Explanation: An expert committee appointed by government suggested Rs. 9,750 per month or Rs. 375 per day as National Minimum Wage (NMW) for a worker. The Present NMW is Rs. 4,576. National minimum wage has been proposed at various regional level in the range of Rs.8,892 to Rs. 11,622 per month, with supplementary house rent allowance of Rs. 1,430 per month for urban workers. The recommendations could form the basis for a national minimum wage covering all workers irrespective of skills, sectors, occupations and rural-urban areas. According to Committee's formula, a family with 3.2 units of consumption requires food of Rs.2400, minimum 50 gm of protein and 30 gm of fat every day. The Labour ministry has proposed a statutory minimal wage which will be calculated by NMW calculator to address varying economic conditions at state and regional levels through a Code on Wages Bill.

82. India and European Union decided to mutually invest up to 40 Million Euros on 7 Research and Innovation projects in which of the following field?

Answer – Water Challenge Explanation: On 14th February 2019, India and the European Union has made a decision to mutually invest up to 40 Million Euros on 7 Research and Innovation projects to tackle and handle immediate water challenges in the country. The projects which are selected will develop or adapt the most acceptable existing creative and affordable solutions for Indian conditions, both in rural and urban areas, to facilitate solutions to cope up with water challenges. 'Horizon 2020', EU's programme and Indian government will invest together on projects for average duration of 4 years. The project will brace India's Ganga rejuvenation initiative, transfer of European technologies to India to suit Indian needs. The 7 projects which are selected includes India-H2O, LOTUS, PANI WATER, SAEASWATI 2.0, SPRING, PAVITR.

83. Government of India, Himachal Pradesh Government and World Bank had signed an agreement worth, how much million for supplying water to the citizens of Greater Shimla?

Answer – USD 40 Million Explanation: A loan agreement of \$40 million (4 crore INR) was signed between the Government of India, Himachal Pradesh Government and World Bank, to help bring clean and reliable drinking water to the citizens of Greater Shimla area, who have been facing severe shortages of water and water-borne epidemics in the last few years. Shimla Water Supply and Sewage Service Delivery Reform Programmatic Development Policy Loan is expected to improve Water Supply & Sanitation (WSS) services in and around Shimla. Loan agreement was signed by Mr. Sameer Kumar Khare, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Junaid Kamal Ahmad, Country Director, World Bank India, on behalf of the World Bank.

84. Which organization launched its UPI recently in India to facilitate secure payments and financial transactions on its platform?

Answer – Amazon-Amazon Pay Unified Payment Interface (UPI) Explanation: On 14th February 2019, Amazon in partnership launched 'Amazon Pay Unified Payment Interface (UPI)' to facilitate secure payments and financial transactions on its platform. Transactions held on Amazon is secured through mobile verification as well as with UPI pin. Customers can link their bank account with UPI pin.

85. Amazon in partnership with which Bank launched 'Amazon Pay Unified Payment Interface (UPI)'?

Answer – Axis Bank Explanation: On 14th February 2019, Amazon in partnership with Axis Bank launched 'Amazon Pay Unified Payment Interface (UPI)' to facilitate secure payments and financial transactions on its platform. Amazon Pay UPI will be exclusively for Android users where every customer will be able to use their Amazon Pay UPI ID to shop on Amazon.in, make payments including recharges and bill payments without entering bank credentials. It will help Amazon customers in adopting BHIM UPI as a digital payment method, thereby helping the Indian government's Initiative of 'Cashless India'.

86. Tata Consultancy Services entered into partnership with _____ to equip 1.72 crore people with digital skills?

Answer – World Economic Forum(WEF) Explanation: Tata Consultancy Services on Thursday announced significant momentum in its partnership with the World Economic Forum and the Closing the Skills Gap coalition. Launched in 2017 with the goal of re-skilling or up-skilling one crore people in the global workforce by 2020, the initiative has secured pledges from leading international businesses to re-train 1.72 crore people, of which 64 lakh have already been trained.

87. Who was appointed as the Finance Minister of India?

Answer – Arun Jaitley Explanation: On 15th February 2019, Union Minister Arun Jaitley has assumed charge as Finance Minister. The charge of Ministry of Finance was given on a temporary basis to Union Minister Piyush Goyal. The Finance and Cooperate Affairs Portfolios will be assigned to Union Minister Arun Jaitley by President Ram Nath Kovind as advised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Arun Jaitley was in US undergoing medical treatment. During the period from January 23 to February 14 in his absence Railway and Coal Minister Piyush Goyal was given charge of Finance Ministry. Piyush Goyal also presented the 6th and final budget of NDA government on February 1, 2019.

88. Which Bank had become the first US bank with Cryptocurrency?

Answer – JP Morgan Chase Explanation: On 14th February 2019, JP Morgan Chase rolled out as the first US bank with cryptocurrency. The change in opinion of JP Morgan is the first step in the program of making it more competitive. The currency is designed to be decentralized so that no one has control over transactions being sent over the network. JP Morgan Chase will be using the cryptocurrency to see its potential in using digital coins to reduce risk and enable instant transfers. JPM Coin is not for retail customers. It will be used internally by the bank to enable instant transfers of payments between institutional accounts.

89. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) withdrew how much percent limit on investments by FPIs in corporate bonds of an entity with a view to encourage more foreign investments?

Answer – 20 Percent Explanation: On 15th February 2019, Reserve Bank of India lifted the limit on Corporate bonds. They withdrew 20% limit on investment by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) in corporate bonds of an entity. The move will encourage more foreign investors to invest in corporate bonds in the country. It aims at incentivizing FPIs to maintain a portfolio of assets. In April 2018, it was stipulated that no FPI should have an exposure of more than 20% of its corporate bond portfolio to a single corporate as per the review of the FPI investment in corporate debt. The directions in connection have been issued in the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA). It is an Act in India to consolidate and change the laws related to foreign exchange with an objective to facilitate external trade and payments. FEMA will also promote the orderly development and maintenance of foreign exchange market in India.

90. First Indian Wealth management company, Edelweiss signed MoU with which of the following bank to access each other product platforms?

Answer – Bank of Singapore Explanation: On 14th February 2019, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) has been signed between Edelweiss and Bank of Singapore in order to form a strategic partnership. The MoU will provide an opportunity to clients of both entities to access each other

product platforms. Edelweiss became the first Indian Wealth management company to sign an MoU with offshore private bank (Bank of Singapore). Bank of Singapore has signed similar MoU with financial companies from Switzerland and Japan.

91. Name the bank, which is penalised by RBI with Rs 1.5 crore recently?

Answer – Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) Explanation: On 14th February 2019, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed monetary penalty on three Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) banks due to deficiencies in regulatory compliance with the directions issued by RBI on monitoring end use of funds, information exchange with other banks and on restructuring of accounts.

Bank Penalty

Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) Rs 1.5 crore

Punjab National Bank (PNB) Rs 1 crore

Bank of India Rs 1 crore

92. Which of the following insurance group received broking licence recently from Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)?

Answer – IndianMoneyInsurance.com Explanation: Indiamoneyinsurance.com, a subsidiary of the Indiamoney.com Group has acquired a broking license from Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) of India's to enter Insurance Business. The company will come to process within next few days and projects to hire 2000 employees before the year ends. The brokerage also projects to institute 500 purchase centres of insurance across India with an investment of Rs. 4 billion.

93. Name the Country, whose Custom duty on all its imported products are hiked to 200% by India recently?

Answer – Pakistan Explanation: On 16th February, 2019, India with immediate effect has boosted the Customs Duty on all the goods imported from Pakistan to 200% followed by the day after India repealed Most Famous Nation (MFN) status from Pakistan. This punitive move followed by the Pulwana Terrorist attack on 14th February, 2019 that led to the death of 42 CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force). This step is likely to strike Pakistan's exports to India which were \$381 million in the April-Nov period and for overall FY18, it was \$489 million. This 200% tariff rate is higher than average bound rate of 113.5% for agriculture products and 34.6% for non-agriculture products.

94. Along with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which of the following Bank formalised the USD 75- billion swap agreement?

Answer – Bank of Japan Explanation: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Bank of Japan formalised the USD 75-billion swap agreement, which would act as a cushion against any sharp swings in the local currency whenever the international financial markets turn volatile. It will enable the availability of USD 75-billion in foreign capital for use as and when the need arises, bringing greater stability to the foreign exchange and capital markets in India and serve as a second line of defence as India has about USD 398 billion foreign exchange reserves to cushion sudden dollar outflows. The proposal for entering into an agreement for the bilateral swap arrangement was approved by the Union Cabinet in January 2019.

95. Name the new social impact bonds launched by World Bank, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women(UN Women) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) with an Initial corpus of Rs.300 Crore?

Answer – Women’s Livelihood Bonds (WLBs) Explanation: World Bank, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women(UN Women), and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) launched new social impact bonds exclusively for women, called Women’s Livelihood Bonds (WLBs), with an initial corpus of Rs 300 crore. It will enable individual women entrepreneurs in sectors like food processing, agriculture, services and small units to borrow around Rs 50,000 to Rs 3 lakh at an annual interest rate of around 13% to 14% or less and have a tenure of 5 years. They will be unsecured, unlisted bonds and offer fixed coupon rate of 3% per annum to bond investors.

96. Which of the following is the only Indian company to make it to ‘50 Most Innovative Companies’ list?

Answer – Jio Saavn Explanation: Jio Saavn– an India-based global audio and music that it scored the 1st rank among Indian companies and 28th rank globally in the 2019 list of “50 Most Innovative Companies”. Jio Saavn is the only Indian company to have made into the list. The other domestic companies that ranked top on the India list of “Most Innovative Companies” are OYO rooms, biodegradable sanitary pad manufacturers Sathi and app based can service Ola. In accordance with the list published by US-based business publication Fast Company.

97. Who chaired the 33rd GST Council Meeting that held in New Delhi?

Answer – Arun Jaitley Explanation: Union Finance Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley, chaired the 33rd Goods & Services Tax (GST) Council held in New Delhi which was attended by the Finance Ministers of various States and Union Territories.

98. GST rate of ____ per cent was levied without Input Tax Credit (ITC) on residential properties outside affordable segment?

Answer – 5 per cent Explanation: GST shall be levied at effective GST rate of 5% without Input Tax Credit (ITC) on residential properties outside affordable segment. GST shall be levied at effective GST of 1% without ITC on affordable housing properties. The new rate will come into force from 1st of April, 2019.

99. Along with Mahindra, which of the following bank will mentor and provide financial support to the winners of ‘Startup Grand Challenge’?

Answer – State Bank of India(SBI) Explanation: ‘Startup Grand Challenge’ was also launched, which focus on the issues related to cyber threat, analytics & rural healthcare. The State Bank of India(SBI) & Mahindra Rise will provide mentoring, pilot opportunities & financial support to the winners of this challenge. The startup hub is launched based on the joint statement signed between the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) and Invest India.

100. Along with Germany’s KfW Development Bank, which bank signed an agreement to refinance solar projects at a cost of 113 million USD?

Answer – Bank of Baroda Explanation: State-run Bank of Baroda has tied up with Germany’s KfW Development Bank to

refinance solar projects at a cost of 113 million USD. The tie-up is part of an Indo-German Solar Energy Partnership signed in 2015. The KfW was formerly known as KfW Bankengruppe (banking group) and it is a German government-owned development bank with headquarters in Frankfurt.

101. Reserve Bank of India(RBI) extended the deadline for prepaid payment instrument (PPI) issuers to complete their Know Your Customer (KYC) norms by ____ months?

Answer – 6 months Explanation: On 25th February 2019, the Reserve Bank of India extended the deadline for prepaid payment instrument (PPI) issuers to complete their Know Your Customer (KYC) norms by six months. Earlier, they had been asked to complete their KYC process by the end of February, 2019. However, an additional time of 6 months has been provided because of difficulties in undertaking Aadhaar e-KYC and time necessary to put in place other systems for completing the KYC process.

102. Which country bought Indian raw sugar for the first time in five years?

Answer – Iran Explanation: For the first time in 5 years, Indian traders will export raw sugar to Iran. It’ll be exported in March and April. The delivery is happening after so many years owing to Iran’s struggles to secure food supplies due to sanctions imposed by the United States. The sanctions state that Iran isn’t permitted to be a part of the global financial system and can’t use US dollars for payments involving its oil sales. Trading houses have contracted to export 1,50,000 tonnes of raw sugar for shipments arriving in March and April at \$305 to \$310 per tonne on a free-on-board basis.

103. Who was appointed to the Amazon’s Board of Directors?

Answer – Indra Nooyi Explanation: Former CEO of Pepsico Indra Nooyi has joined Amazon’s Board of Directors. With her appointment, Amazon’s 11-member board now has five women, including Nooyi, Brewer, Jamie Gorelick, Judith McGrath and Patricia Stonesifer. She has been granted 549 shares of common company stock.

104. Thomas Cook India Group-a travel services group has acquired 51 percent share in which of the following Dubai based Imaging company?

Answer – Digiphoto Entertainment Imaging (DEI) Explanation: Thomas Cook India Group-a travel services group has acquired 51 percent share in Digiphoto Entertainment Imaging (DEI) based in Dubai. The deal is valued at \$40.6 million (Rs 289 crore). Digiphoto Entertainment was started in 2004 and provides imaging solutions for the tourism industry. It is spread in around 250 venues spanning over 14 countries and has done 3.6 million transactions in 2018.

105. Which of the following banks are removed from the PCA (Prompt Corrective Action) framework recently?

Answer – Corporation Bank, Allahabad Bank and Dhanlaxmi Bank Explanation: On 26th February 2019, the Board for Financial Supervision (BFS) of the Reserve Bank of India has removed 2 public sector banks- Corporation Bank and Allahabad Bank and 1 private sector bank – Dhanlaxmi Bank from PCA (Prompt Corrective Action) framework. According to BFS, Allahabad Bank and Corporation Bank had received Rs 6,896 crore and Rs 9,086 crore respectively which led to increase in their capital funds and also increased their loan loss

provision. According to RBI, Dhanlaxmi bank was found to be not breaching any of the risk threshold of the PCA Framework, hence was removed out of the PCA Framework.

106. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and which of the following organization for the development of infrastructure for fuels, lubricating oil, LPG and Natural Gas?

Answer – Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)

Explanation: A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) for development of infrastructure for fuels, lubricating oil, LPG, Natural Gas and any other related fuel and gas for meeting the requirement of National Waterways. Under the MoU, both the organisations jointly conduct techno-economic feasibility studies for preparation of detailed land requirement, storage facilities and other supporting infrastructure with details of the cost. IWAI will provide inputs and information pertaining to National

Waterways and its terminals with IOCL for implementing projects. It will also provide land to IOCL on long term lease basis for developing facilities at existing terminals within the approved guidelines of land lease policy of the Government.

107. Hemand Bhargava was appointed as the Non-Executive Chairman of which of the following bank?

Answer – IDBI Bank Explanation: On 25th February 2019, IDBI Bank (Industrial Development Bank of India) appointed Hemand Bhargava as non-executive non wholetime Chairman for a period of 3 years or till he continues as the chairman-in-charge and MD of LIC (Life Insurance Corporation of India). Currently LIC is the majority shareholders in IDBI Bank with 51% stake. The Life Insurance has become the promoter of it after they acquired the stake from the Government of India. The name of the bank is proposed for a change by LIC to either LIC IDBI Bank or LIC Bank which was approved by the IDBI Bank board subject to a 'no objection' from RBI, shareholders and availability of name.